

Hilary Kitasei came to our community a few short years ago and in that relatively brief time has made a lasting impression on her new neighborhood and on how the community looks. She first took on a rather desolate piece of wasteland at Fieldston Road at the Henry Hudson Parkway overpass and using her considerable abilities transformed it into a woodland glade that is a highlight of the neighborhood.

It was planted by the students from almost all of the local schools as well as neighbors and is now a part of the New York City Parks Department Greenstreets Program.

Setting her eyes on a larger project she is spearheading the development of the Hudson Scenic Byway Program to create New York State's first urban scenic byway.

Riverdale, and by extension all of New York City, is lucky to have such people as Hilary Kitasei. I join all of our community in thanking her for the wonderful things she has done.

CONGRATULATING DR. GLORIA BROMELL-TINUBU ON HER APPOINTMENT AS THE 5TH PRESIDENT OF BETHUNE COOKMAN COLLEGE

### HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Gloria Bromell-Tinubu on becoming the 5th president of Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida.

An educator and a community leader, Dr. Bromell-Tinubu is an economics professor at Spelman College in Atlanta, and was a former member of the Georgia State Board of Education. She is currently the chief executive officer of the Atlanta Cooperative Development Board, a nonprofit agency that serves as a catalyst in developing cooperative-owned business enterprises. Within 9 months as CEO, she obtained a \$1 million grant to assist the economically disadvantaged move toward self-sufficiency, and continues research that explores the use of cooperatives as a means of establishing economic security in asset-poor communities.

Dr. Bromell-Tinubu is a former member of the Atlanta City Council who has considerable community development experience, as shown by legislation she authored creating the Atlanta Neighborhood Deputies Program, a city-wide citizen driven code enforcement effort. She has served on numerous community development boards, including the Metropolitan Neighborhood Development Corporation (MNDC), which she founded.

In taking the helm of Bethune-Cookman College, Dr. Bromell-Tinubu becomes the fifth president of this private coeducational liberal arts college with a diverse student population of more than 2,700. Established in 1904 by Mary McLeod Bethune, the college is ranked among the top historically black colleges in the country. Most recently Bethune-Cookman College was selected as one of 10 colleges in the country to participate in Project Pericles, a program funded by the Eugene Lang Foundation to establish educational programs for social responsibility and participatory citizenship

as an essential part of higher education learning, in the classroom, on the campus, and in the community.

The Bethune Cookman College could not have found a more perfect fit to fulfill their goals and mission. I know that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Gloria Bromell-Tinubu today, and we wish her every success in her future.

HONORING SPECIAL AGENT  
LEANNE G. CHARETTE ON THE  
OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered today to extend my sincere congratulations to Leanne G. Charette on the occasion of her retirement marking the end of a thirty-two year career with the Internal Revenue Service.

When the average American thinks about the Internal Revenue Service, often they only contemplate the time, energy, and paperwork it takes to file an annual tax return. While the Internal Revenue Service is charged with the task of collecting revenue, they are also responsible for ensuring the protection of American citizens from fraud and evasion. Every day we hear the stories of corporations and individuals who seek to undermine the government through waste, mismanagement, and fraud. It is through the efforts of Special Agents like Ms. Charette that American taxpayers are saved millions in lost revenue.

Throughout her career, Leanne Charette has demonstrated a unique commitment to public service. As a Special Agent with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service, she has been an active member of several complex investigations. As a member of the Health Care Fraud Task Force, she worked with representatives from several federal agencies to identify abuses in the health care field which were used to help develop health care reforms. More recently, Ms. Charette worked on a task force investigating a massive insurance fraud responsible for bilking insurance companies in several states of assets in excess of two hundred million dollars. Her efforts helped to identify several problems with the industry and the results will go a long way in helping to establish solutions to these issues. More importantly, the task force has been able to recover most of the stolen assets which will be distributed to the victims.

Too often, we overlook the tireless efforts of those in public service. Throughout her career, Ms. Charette has exemplified all that a public servant should be. Her commitment and diligence has earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues and all of those with whom she has worked. For her many years of dedicated service, I am proud to rise today to extend my heart-felt congratulations to Leanne G. Charette as she joins her husband, Dick, in retirement. My very best wishes to you both for many more years of health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO DR. YJEAN  
CHAMBERS OF GARY, INDIANA

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker it is with great remorse that I rise today to pay tribute to one of Gary, Indiana's most dedicated and caring citizens, Dr. YJean Chambers. YJean passed away on Wednesday, November 12th at Methodist Hospital after a longtime illness. Her efforts as a distinguished educator as well as her numerous contributions to her community are worthy of the highest commendation and recognition.

YJean and her family moved to Gary, Indiana from Kentucky when she was a young girl, seeking a better life for themselves. In 1939, she graduated from Gary Roosevelt High School ranking second in her class, and then went on to earn her Bachelor of Education degree from Illinois State University. She also went on to earn her Master of Arts degree from Purdue University, where she received Purdue University's highest award, Doctor of Humane Letters in 1993.

YJean knew how important education was to all members of her community and therefore shared her gift of knowledge and enthusiasm for learning by becoming a teacher in Madison, Illinois. After two years she began teaching speech and drama at her alma mater, Gary Roosevelt High School. In 1971, YJean became a full time professor at Purdue Calumet in Hammond, Indiana where she taught communications and was appointed Assistant Professor of Communications in 1973.

YJean gave selflessly to her community in so many ways, including being a member of several volunteer and service organizations. She served as President of the Steel City Hall of Fame, sat on the Service Academies Nomination Board, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Gary Community Schools, and was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Indiana School Board Association. YJean made history in Northwest Indiana by becoming the first African American woman elected to the Northwest Indiana Crime Commission and the first woman to serve on the Advisory Board of the Bank of Indiana.

Although she dedicated her life to serving her community, YJean never limited the time she gave to her loving family. She is survived by her husband Mr. Herman Chambers, and their son Lanel.

Mr. Speaker, YJean Chambers was a caring and committed woman who gave of herself in so many ways to her community. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to Dr. YJean Chambers, she will be remembered honorably and truly missed.

TRIBUTE TO JOSHUA PETERS

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute today to Joshua Peters of Muncie, Indiana. Joshua is an Army